

## **Franklin County Commissioners' General Session Agenda for 12/04/12**

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners holds its General Session meetings every Tuesday at 9:00am in the Franklin County Government Tower at 373 South High Street, 26th Floor. Highlighted below are some of the resolutions/contracts scheduled for consideration at the upcoming meeting:

### **Advancing the Work of Franklin County's New Land Bank to Target Abandoned, Blighted Houses**

A partnership between the County Commissioners and County Treasurer, the Franklin County Land Reutilization Corporation is the County's newest tool in fighting neighborhood blight, protecting property values, and addressing the persistent problem of vacant and abandoned properties. On Tuesday, Commissioners will consider the latest efforts to advance the work of the land bank, voting on short-term staffing needs until the land bank is in full operation next year. The land bank gives the County the ability to quickly receive control of vacant and tax delinquent properties - including abandoned homes that erode community pride, impact nearby property values, and drive away new investment. Earlier this year, Franklin County's land bank was awarded \$8.2 million from the Ohio Attorney General's Office for the demolition of vacant and abandoned residential buildings. These grant funds - combined with demolition funds from the County and City of Columbus - will add up to approximately \$16 million in countywide demolitions, which could lead to the removal of more than 1,200 blighted residential properties.

### **Finding Unclaimed Funds through the State's Treasure Hunt Efforts**

Also on Tuesday, Commissioners will vote on a measure to collect nearly \$3,000 in unclaimed funds through the Ohio Department of Commerce's Division of Unclaimed Funds. Though a relatively minor amount, it is a good reminder for all local residents to check for unclaimed funds. The state's Division of Unclaimed Funds launched its Treasure Hunt effort to protect money lost by Ohioans in various financial institutions, find the people the money belongs to, and then return it as quickly as possible. That also includes money unclaimed by Ohio school districts and political subdivisions. Some estimates have suggested as much as \$1 billion is currently unclaimed by Ohio residents. Anyone can search the state's unclaimed funds database by visiting [www.unclaimedfundstreasurehunt.ohio.gov](http://www.unclaimedfundstreasurehunt.ohio.gov).

### **Keeping Drivers Safe and Traffic Flowing with New Roadway Signs**

The Franklin County Engineer's Office is responsible for the maintenance and construction of approximately 275 miles of county roadway. On Tuesday, County Commissioners will consider a joint project between the County Engineer and the Ohio Department of Transportation to invest more than \$60,000 to replace and add new traffic signs across the county, with special attention to improving the safety of drivers at dangerous curves. The majority of the funding for these projects will come from the federal highway fund.

**For the full General Session Agenda, visit:**

<http://crms.franklincountyohio.gov/RMSWeb/pdfs/Agendas/CurrentAgenda.pdf>

## **Commissioners' Weekly Agenda 12/01/12 to 12/07/12**

### **2013 County Budget Hearings (Monday/Tuesday - 1:00pm)**

County Commissioners will continue hearing testimony on the Recommended 2013 Franklin County Budget, with presentations on Monday and Tuesday afternoon. The total amount of budget appropriations recommended for all county funds in 2013 is \$1.28 billion. On Monday, representatives from the Offices of the County Engineer, County Coroner, County Treasurer, County Auditor, and County Recorder will review their 2013 budget requests. On Tuesday, Commissioners will focus on next year's proposed investments in Economic Development and Job Creation, Affordable Housing, and Community Security. Additional information on the 2013 Franklin County Budget is available at [budget.franklincountyohio.gov/budget/2013](http://budget.franklincountyohio.gov/budget/2013).

**For the Weekly Agenda of Official Commissioner Events, visit:**

<http://www.franklincountyohio.gov/commissioners/public-meetings/>